

LIVINGSTON COUNTY VETERANS' COMMITTEE

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Livingston County East Complex, Conference Room B

2300 E. Grand River | Howell, MI | 48843

March 20, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Members Present Bruce Hundley
 Kevin Nagle
 Joe Riker
 James Wallace
 Robert J. Bezotte

Staff Present Mary Durst
 Dena Daher

 April Townsend

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Chairman, Joseph Riker.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call by the Chairman indicates the presence of a quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved as presented.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte

Seconded By James Wallace

Motion Carried (5 to 0)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 February 20, 2019

Motion to approve minutes with the amendment of Jim Wallace's name removed from "Members Present". Minutes approved as amended.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte
Seconded By Kevin Nagle

Motion Carried (5 to 0)

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF

6.1 19-29

Request for continued payment for mental health treatment. Question if continued therapy would qualify under the Emergency Relief Fund. An emergency, by definition, means, "a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action". Current applicant situation does not meet the criteria for "emergent need".

Motion to provide up to 30 days counseling, then discontinue. Case management to continue to assist veteran in finding other resources.

Moved By James Wallace
Seconded By Robert J. Bezotte

Yes (5): Bruce Hundley, Kevin Nagle, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

Motion Carried (5 to 0)

6.2 19-30

Request for continued payment for mental health treatment. Discussion about qualifying factors for emergent need.

Kevin Nagle argues that Veterans Services should continue to pay for services due to applicant's situation and trust established with therapist.

Motion to provide up to 30 days of treatment, then discontinue. Provide an additional battery for oxygen if needed.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte
Seconded By Bruce Hundley

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

No (1): Kevin Nagle

Motion Carried (4 to 1)

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Child care relief policy

Discussion on where funding for policy should come from and how long an applicant can claim the benefit. Committee requests that Director return with two policies next meeting; one stating a 12 month limit and one stating a 4 year limit. Committee to vote next meeting.

7.2 Mental health relief policy

Discussion about whether Mental Health Relief should come from the Emergency Relief Fund or a separate fund be set up and funded through the millage. Veterans Benefits Counselor was to meet with Vet Center provider the previous week to discuss what services are already being offered in order to prevent duplication, but appointment was re-scheduled. Committee would like to wait until after meeting before making a decision.

7.3 Minute taker

Motion for Director, Mary Durst, to continue minute taker duties.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte

Seconded By Joe Riker

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

No (1): Kevin Nagle

Motion Carried (4 to 1)

7.4 Veterans Court Coordinator Memorandum of Understanding

Discussed verbiage in Memorandum of Understanding and made amendments. Also discussed three year commitment versus two year commitment.

Motion to authorize part-time position for three years with stated amendments.

Moved By Kevin Nagle

Seconded By Bruce Hundley

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Kevin Nagle, Joe Riker, and Robert J. Bezotte

No (1): James Wallace

Motion Carried (4 to 1)

7.5 Peace time emergency relief fund

Discussed proposed policy and made amendment to change month of yearly vote from "January of every year" to, "November of every year, not taking effect until January 1st".

Motion to authorize policy with stated amendments. Budget for 2019 will be \$30,000.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte

Seconded By Kevin Nagle

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Kevin Nagle, Joe Riker, and Robert J. Bezotte

No (1): James Wallace

Motion Carried (4 to 1)

7.6 Transportation vehicles

Director requested approval of Committee to sell MV1 and buy Dodge van with rear-entry wheelchair access. Committee discussed how Veterans Services does business with L.E.T.S. Committee would like representative from L.E.T.S. to come to next meeting to explain the financing procedure.

Kevin Nagle leaves meeting at 8:46 P.M.

Motion to allow purchase of up to \$41,353.13 for new van contingent L.E.T.S. representative comes to next meeting to explain financing procedure to Committee.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte

Seconded By Joe Riker

Yes (5): Bruce Hundley, Kevin Nagle, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

Motion Carried (5 to 0)

Kevin Nagle leaves meeting at 8:46

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Quarterly budget amendment

Director proposed increasing quarterly budget amendment by \$94,346.23. Increase in budget will be utilized to support new, proposed programs, new community outreach initiative and to assist with current services and operating expenses.

Discussed re-allocating excess funding from previously budgeted full time Court Coordinator position, to remaining line items in need and reducing quarterly budget amendment to \$56,720.

Motion to approve amended quarterly budget amendment.

Moved By Bruce Hundley

Seconded By Robert J. Bezotte

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

Absent (1): Kevin Nagle

Motion Carried (4 to 0)

Bruce Hundley leaves meeting at 9:25 P.M.

Bruce Hundley enters meeting at 9:30 P.M.

8.2 Director's Report

Director's February monthly stats as follows:

- Appointment scheduling wait time - Under one week.
- 134 Appointments completed.
- 62 Rides given.
- 22 Relief appointments completed.
- Relief given: \$17,192.27.
- No homeless Veterans currently being housed.
- Two Veterans utilizing Mental Health services.

8.3 Marketing

Discussed different marketing strategies. Chairman Joe Riker and Director Mary Durst to work on an action plan.

8.4 Veteran Claims

Motion to table.

Moved By Robert J. Bezotte

Seconded By Bruce Hundley

Yes (4): Bruce Hundley, Joe Riker, James Wallace, and Robert J. Bezotte

Absent (1): Kevin Nagle

Motion Carried (4 to 0)

9. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Bob Bezotte wanted to confirm the Committee was still interested in having a motivational speaker come in to speak to Veterans.

Veterans Services web page has been updated with employee biographies. Director would also like to have Committee member biographies on Veterans Services web page.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 9:45 P.M.

Moved By Bruce Hundley

Seconded By James Wallace

Motion Carried (4 to 0)

Mary Durst, Director

Recorder

Joseph Riker, Chair